

Mr. H. K. Madaiya.—

Is it not a fact that the roads in the Mysore District are much better than those in the malnad and that with one gallon of petrol, it is possible to travel about 40 miles in the Mysore District while it may not be possible to cover more than 10 miles with the same quantity in the malnad?

No answer.

Mr. B. Gopalachar.—

Is the amount of touring work the same in all the districts?

Second Member of Council.—

There may be difference. If the rule has to be changed in respect of any district, the District Board may make a reference in the matter.

Mr. B. P. Basappa Setty.—

If the tour charges have been more in the Kadur District, does it not show that the President has travelled more for inspection work?

Second Member of Council.—

We do not know the details.

Mr. B. P. Basappa Setty.—

Is it not a fact that the District Board Presidents are making use of motor cars for their tours?

Second Member of Council.—

Some are.

Mr. B. P. Basappa Setty.—

If so, should not Government grant them the same mileage rate as to the Deputy Commissioners?

Dewan.—

The Boards might consider the matter.

MR. T. SIDDALINGIAH (Dodballapur Municipality).—

Q.—3. Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) Whether the Government are aware of the arrears of the undisposed of petitions for a number of years in the

Revenue Department and the consequent delay in the current work?

(b) If so, will a period be fixed within which the petitions must be disposed of and endorsements sent to the parties and also attach some penalty for default?

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.—

A.—3, (a) The question is somewhat vague. Long delays occasionally do occur; but every effort is made to minimise them.

(b) Circular instructions have been issued that efforts should be made to pass final orders on each petition presented, at least within three months from the date of the petition.

Cases of abnormal delay which come to notice will be suitably dealt with.

Supplementary Questions and Answers.

Mr. T. Siddalingiah.—

Is it not desirable to give an endorsement to the petitioner when petitions are delayed beyond three months, and is it not necessary to prescribe some punishment for failure on the part of an officer to speed up disposals within a period to be fixed?

Dewan.—

It is not possible to fix a definite period for disposal. Disposals should be expedited. If concrete cases of undue delay are brought to notice, they will be enquired into.

Mr. T. Siddalingiah.—

Why not a general order be issued fixing a time limit for the disposal of petitions?

Second Member of Council.—

It is not possible to treat all petitions alike. Some petitions can be disposed of immediately while others will take time. Circular instructions have been issued in the matter, and quarterly statements of disposals are being received from the subordinate officers.

Khan Bahadur Mahomed Abbas Khan.—

Has there been any improvement since the circulars were issued?

Second Member of Council.—

I think there is.

Mr. T. Mariappa.—

Can you appoint a committee to investigate into the causes of delay now occurring?

Dewan.—

Delays should not occur. If instances of delays are brought to notice, the necessary enquiries will be made.

Mr. T. Mariappa.—

Cannot endorsements be sent every month to the petitioners explaining the cause of delay in the disposal? Otherwise, the papers may get lost by efflux of time.

Dewan.—

Government have already issued instructions for minimising delays. The receipt of every petition should be acknowledged by the officer concerned. Instructions will be issued to enforce this rule.

MR. S. N. SEETHARAMA RAO (Special Interest).—

Q.—4. Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) What are the conditions on which the present Agent of the Mysore State Railways was taken to the Mysore Railway Service?

(b) What was his rank, status and pay before he joined the Mysore Service?

(c) What are his special qualifications for his being made the Agent of the Mysore Railways on his present high salary?

(d) Whether, when compared with the Madras and Southern Mahratta, South Indian and other Railways, the appointment of two District Traffic Superintendents for 400 miles of Railway is justifiable?

CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.—

A.—4. (a) The conditions have varied from time to time. The terms of his current contract are:—

Salary for the combined charges of Traffic Manager, Agent and Secretary to Government, Railway Department	...	...	Rs. 1,900
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